

ON THE TRAIL OF THE MOTION PICTURE

An Irregular Interview With Percy Marmont

By Katharine Wright

When Harriette Underhill and Heywood Brown and the Powers That Be told us that we were to substitute during our most efficient "movie" editor's vacation the news had a joyful sound. Of course, taking some one's place, even for a little while, is always a delicate matter. If the job is badly done one hears about it. If one tries extra hard one hears about it, too.

However it was cheering to know that for two weeks, although we might still have to trudge to auction sales and listen to the droning monotony of auctioneers and take down reports that resemble nothing so much as an infant telephone directory, although we would still wander up and down side streets in pursuit of "summer exhibitions," at least eight perfectly good "movie" shows were ahead of us, perhaps more.

Then there was the Sunday layout to consider, and all the copy for the Sunday "movie" page, and Miss Underhill said: "Will you do some interviews for me, too?" Of course we said "Yes," and then we asked H. U. to lunch with us and tell us all about it.

Percy Marmont was the first subject chosen for us to interview. This was also pleasing. We like Englishmen. So does H. U., particularly those from Australia. So we started off to keep our appointment, hoping that luncheon would bring forth from H. U. a thumbnail sketch of the young man's career and also his telephone number. Now we knew we would have trouble in distinguishing H. U. in the crowd of femininity fluttering up and down the corridor of the hotel we had selected as a meeting place, for this reason: H. U.'s face would be hidden by a large and splendid hat, probably the forty-seventh in her collection, while she would be wearing gown ninety-five, while we have only progressed as far as recognizing number sixty-one. But when she actually did appear on the horizon we gasped. Had we mistaken the day? We asked ourselves hastily. For there on the divan beside her sat what proved to be the Marmont in person.

"He happened to be coming in town to-day," explained H. U. sweetly. "And so he thought this would be a splendid idea, and I agreed, and after luncheon you can make another engagement to lunch with him, so that he can be regularly interviewed."

But if Mr. Marmont, who by the way has always played lovers on the stage and for seven years on the screen, is coy we are even coy. The idea of forcing a nice young movie actor to invite us to luncheon never entered our head, and we mentally resolved to interview him irregularly but on the spot.

Mr. Marmont does not look like a typical "movie" actor, but he does look like an Englishman, the tall, sleek, blue-eyed, tweed-wearing type. He has honest blue eyes and a handsome head and a sophisticated nose. At H. U.'s suggestion this nose is mentioned, and "finely chiselled" is such a threadbare expression.

When we had recovered from the shock of realizing that we would be able to pay the second instalment of our income tax without feeling it and still have invited a celebrity to luncheon we began to get on the job.

"I suppose you once played at His Majesty's," we said. This is usually a safe rule to follow in the sequence of questions applied to English actors, young, middle-aged or old. But Mr. Marmont proved the exception. His adventures under the star of the late Sir Herbert Tree occurred on tour and in the provinces.

It later developed that Mr. Marmont

has played in musical comedies, farces, Drury Lane melodramas, and plays by Shaw, Barrie, Galsworthy and Pinero. Just before he came to America he appeared in Africa and Australia. While in Africa he spent all of his time, when not playing, in photographing the natives. One case puzzled him extremely. He still speaks of it. In fact he produced the very picture from his wallet. When it was passed across the table to us we saw a very brown little boy and a very white little girl in the costume which prevailed in the Garden of Eden before the serpent's day. It appears they were brother and sister, and their parents were dark brown.

"Now wasn't that very strange?" commented naïve Percy.

After his tour Mr. Marmont stopped off for a few days in New York on his way home to England. He has been here ever since—seven years—and has no plans for returning to England. During his screen experience he has played lover to Elsie Ferguson, Alice Brady, Geraldine Farrar and Marguerite Clark. Soon as a Vitaphone star he will be making love to Alice Joyce in "Vengeance." One of the young man's assets remains unfortunately lost to the public in his screen work—that is, an unusually sonorous speaking voice.

When not on a "location" this young Englishman lives down at his home on Long Island. He has a pet goat with an uncertain disposition. Beyond this we were unable to glean any information as to his domestic arrangements. And then, H. U. had finished her strawberry basket and it was time to go to an auction, and we heard the subway calling us, so we tore ourselves away.

The Chinese Music

In "Broken Blossoms"

On the stage during the display of "Broken Blossoms" there is a complete Chinese orchestra. There is the "ch'in," a Chinese stringed instrument which the Chinese think has the power to restrain evil passions and soothe the spirit. There is the Goto, with from twenty-five to fifty strings that are beaten with bamboo wands; there is the san-hein, a twenty-five stringed guitar covered with shankskin and tuned to the fifth interval; there is the shu-tih, an embryo clarinet, and there is the te-ch'ing, a musical stone about which Konei, court musician to Emperor Yao, in the fifth century, wrote:

"When I smite my musical stone, Be it gently or strong, Then do the fiercest hearts beat for joy."

When I touch the lyre that is called ch'in Then the ghosts of the ancestors come to hear."

And, above all, there are the Chinese drums. The Chinese wrote a treatise on the harmony of the drum in A. D. 863, giving over 100 drum symphonies. The drum has a terrible significance in the symbolism of Chinese music, and Mr. Griffith often has heard in China the sound from the drum towers, where every evening drums of six feet in diameter are beaten against the powers of evil.

This Chinese orchestra, so important in creating the correct atmosphere for this picture, is only one of four orchestras that play during the performance original compositions by Mr. Griffith himself and by Louis G. Gottschalk.

Motion Pictures to Report

Governmental Use of Funds

Motion pictures have been used for many varied purposes, but they have never been adapted as a means of reporting governmental disposition of public funds.

That is, they never have until the State of Illinois, through its Depart-

AMUSEMENTS



PARK Theatre 59 St.
Continuous 1 to 1:30 P.M. Popular Prices
SUPER MAN in SUPER PICTURE

JESS WILLARD
The Challenge of Chance
The Most Stupendous of All Productions
The Man of the Hour Knock Out 20 Mexicans.
Action Every Minute.
Thrills That Bite.
Scenes That Grip.
"This is the most timely motion picture in the world."
—Telegram.

SEE
The Man of the Hour Knock Out 20 Mexicans.
Action Every Minute.
Thrills That Bite.
Scenes That Grip.

KISS ME
Musical Extravaganza
Diana Bonner, Felix & Fisher
U. S. S. CAROLA TRIO

MCKAY & ARDINE
HERBERT CLIFTON

DAISY PARK
AMUSEMENT
OPPOSITE WEST 150 ST. PARK
SURE BATHING NOW OPEN.



Dorothy Dalton Strand



Robert Warwick Rivoli



Doris Lee Rialto



Percy Marmont Vitagraph

Shadows on the Screen

ment of Public Welfare, decided that the voters of that state were to be given a visualized report of what the expenditure of funds under the control of that department had brought about. As a result of this decision practically every public institution in Illinois will be filmed during this week and the week following. The pictures will show in detail improvements which have been introduced under the present administration in Illinois in the management and operation of nine of the largest state institutions. Insane asylums, penitentiaries, reformatories, charitable institutions for the aged and infirm and orphans will be pictured in the series.

State officials will also take part in the pictures. Governor Louden has expressed a keen interest in this novel method of informing citizens, and will appear in person in the picture, as will the Lieutenant Governor, state auditor of public accounts, state treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, Attorney General and the clerk of the Illinois Supreme Court.

The films, which will be several thousand feet in length, are being taken by the educational department of the Universal Film Manufacturing Company, under the supervision of Harry Levey, manager.

Brazilian Visitors to Have Private Movies On the Way Home

When Dr. Pessoa, the President-elect of Brazil, concludes his visit to the United States and sets sail for Brazil he will travel aboard an American warship, the Idaho, one of the first line battleships, according to information received by the Foreign Department of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation. American hospitality will not end there, however, as provisions have been made for the entertainment of the distinguished Brazilian and his official party with American films, the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation having offered the use of a number of Paramount and Arctcraft pictures for that purpose. This offer was accepted by Captain Vogelsang on behalf of the United States government, and the films, correctly titled in the Brazilian language, have been placed on board the Idaho in anticipation of the departure of the Brazilian party the latter part of next week.

The photographs which have been selected for the entertainment of the United States government are:

"Under the Greenwood Tree," Elsie Ferguson, and "The Man From Painted Post," Arctcraft pictures, and "The City of Dim Faces," Sessue Hayakawa; "Prunella," Marguerite Clark; "You Never Saw Such a Girl," Vivian Martin; "Quickhands," Dorothy Dalton, Thomas H. Ince star, and "Paid in Full," Pauline Frederick, Paramount pictures.

In addition a large consignment of Paramount and Arctcraft pictures will be sent on board the Idaho for the entertainment of the crew, all of whom are ardent motion picture fans.

More than 100 week-run houses throughout the country have booked the Jess Willard picture, "The Challenge of Chance," according to an announcement made by Frank G. Hall, who has the exclusive distributing rights to the Willard picture for the United States and Canada and under whose direction the picture is playing now at the Park Theatre. So great has been the demand for first showing of this picture that next week it will be playing in a dozen or more houses in the same city on the same day.

Peggy Wood, actress and light opera singer, will begin a new career tomorrow, when for the first time she will act before a camera. Her first work as a motion picture actress will be done at the Goldwyn studios in Culver City, Cal. She is to appear with Will Rogers, late of the Follies.

Select Pictures Corporation announces this week that a definite title has been decided upon for the forthcoming Guy Emery special attraction, which has been previously announced under the temporary working title of "Hell on Earth." The permanent title will be "The Undercurrents," which more adequately fits the nature of this compelling drama.

Arrangements have been completed for the screen presentation by the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation of Lionel Barrymore in his triumph, "The Copperhead." Work on the picture will be commenced about September 1. One of the Eastern studios of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation will be used, and if the new million dollar plant on Long Island is ready in time this film will probably mark the first production in that institution.

Louis B. Mayer, manager of Antin Stewart, has signed a long term contract with Mildred Harris, wife of Charlie Chaplin, who will be known by that name in the Mayer productions. She began her screen career with the Universal Film Company and became a star through "The Price of a Good Time," "For Husband's Only" and "Borrowed Clothes."

Ernest Truex, screen and stage star, has been signed for a series of comedy films by Amodeo J. Van Buren, president of the V. B. K. Film Corporation, producers of the Paramount-Drew comedies, and Timely Films, Inc., producers of "Topics of the Day," produced by Pathé Exchange, Inc. Mr. Truex began his screen career with Mary Pickford in "The Good Little"

Devil," playing the role of Charles MacLane, which he originated in the Helmsco stage production of this play. Production plans for Truex comedies are now being formulated by Mr. Van Buren and details will be announced at a later date.

As the result of discussions regarding motion picture conditions with representatives of the governments of England, France and Italy during his recent trip to Europe, William A. Brady proposes to organize at once an international picture company in America, which will handle only foreign films. It will be organized for the purpose of opening the door to foreign producers. While in Paris Mr. Brady entered into a contract with the Film d'Art Company to make six pictures in France with American stars.

Universal sent a serial party to Europe yesterday. Eddie Polo, star of many Universal serials, and Peggy O'Brien, his leading woman, head the expeditionary force. Others in the party are: Hope Loring, continuity writer; John B. McGowan, director; James Wilkinson, assistant director; John Pickford, actor and camera man; Virgil Miller, camera man; Ernest W. Smith, property manager; Earl O. Miller, electrician, and Earl W. Kramer, business manager. Scenes will be filmed in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and France. Many European actors will be in the cast.

AMUSEMENTS

B.S. Moss' Broadway
Broadway at 41st St.
TODAY & ALL WEEK

ALICE JOYCE
in a Vitaphone Picture
"THE SPARK DIVINE"
MACK SENNETT COMEDY—SCENIC
NEW AMERICAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

STRAND
A National Institution
Broadway at 47th St. Direction J.O.S. LPLUNKETT.
COMMENCING TO-DAY—THOS. H. INCE Presents

DOROTHY DALTON
in "OTHER MEN'S WIVES"
A Paramount Picture
MACK SENNETT COMEDY
STRAND TOPICAL REVIEW
WALTER PONTIUS Tenor—ANN RUTLEDGE Soprano
STRAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The title of the serial will be "The 13th Hour," an international detective story, with Eddie Polo as the detective. The San Francisco and New York City scenes have already been filmed.

Little Mae Marsh 2d made her first appearance in the picture world yesterday when she was photographed in Stuyvesant Park, just outside the Lying-in Hospital.

Murdock MacQuarrie, well known as actor and director in the "movies," has gone to the Goldwyn Company. He will assist Frank Lloyd on the Geraldine Farrar productions.

Robertson-Cole Company this week announces the completion of four features which will comprise part of the schedule of releases they have arranged for the summer months for distribution by Exhibitors' Mutual.

Sessue Hayakawa has put the finishing touches on "The Man Beneath," a story which starts in Scotland, moves to India, thence to Italy and ends in Scotland, taken from a novel by Edmund Mitchell. William Desmond completed "Barefisted Gallagher," written by William Parker, author of "What Every Woman Wants" and chief of the scenario staff of Jesse D. Hampton productions. Bessie Barriscale in "The Woman Michael Married" has reached the New York headquarters of the company. "Better Times," written and directed by King W. Vidor, creator of "The Turn in the Road," is also ready for release.

Three stories by Bret Harte have just been purchased by Jesse D. Hampton and will be made into features by this company. William Desmond will have the featured role in all three. The first of the series will be "Cressy," the second, "In a Hollow of the Hills," and the third, "Maruja."

The new Capital Theatre, at Broadway and Fifty-first Street, will open early in the autumn with United Artists' Corporation's new Douglas Fairbanks picture, now in the making.

AMUSEMENTS

RIALTO
Broadway at 42nd St.
HUGO RIESENFELD, Director
BEGINNING TO-DAY at 1 P. M.

CHARLES RAY
in a Paramount Picture
"HAY FOOT, STRAW FOOT"

CHARLES CHAPLIN
in "Easy Street"
RIALTO MAGAZINE
Bruce Secane

RIALTO ORCHESTRA
"The Hat" Overture.

New Films of the Week

William Gillette's famous drama, "Secret Service," will be at the Rivoli this week, with Major Robert Warwick in the role made famous by Mr. Gillette. Beulah Marie Dix wrote the screen version of "Secret Service" and Hugh Ford is responsible for the direction. The play deals with the efforts of a Secret Service agent of the Union to bring about the capture of Richmond at the time when the city was besieged by the Federal forces. In the company assisting Major Warwick are Wanda Hawley, Theodore Roberts, Raymond Hatton, Irving Cummings, Dixon Ferguson, Edythe Chapman and Guy Oliver. A special feature will be the first performance of "The White Peacock," composed by Charles T. Griffes, with a ballet staged by Adolf Bolm. The solo dancer will be Margaret Lecrass.

The latest Mack Sennett comedy will be "Hearts and Flowers," and there will be the usual Rivoli Pictorial, illustrating current news events. The Rivoli Orchestra will play Schubert's "Rosamunde" overture and James Harrod will sing "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia."

Charles Ray has an entirely new character in his latest Paramount photoplay, "Hay Foot, Straw Foot," which will be shown at the Rivoli this week. In this story, written by Julian Josephson, Mr. Ray appears as a country youth who goes to a modern military camp. His name is Ulysses S. Grant Briggs, and he is expected by his grandfather to live up to all the standards of the great American general. Ulysses is made the butt of many jokes in camp, but gains the sympathy of Betty Marlin, a pretty village girl. Doris Lee is the girl, and other members of Mr. Ray's supporting company are William Conklin, Spotiswoode Aitkin and J. P. Lockney. The picture was directed by Jerome Storm.

Supplementing the feature will be Charlie Chaplin in "Easy Street," and the Rialto Magazine. There will also be a Bruce Secane, "Sundown," with incidental music by Percy Grainger, which will be hummed off stage by Martin Brefel and Mme. Pasceva.

The musical programme will include the overture to "The Bat," by Johann Strauss, played by the Rialto orchestra, and the "Hawaiian Waltz," with a marimbaphone solo by Frank Wolf and Harry Edson. Lusa Lesca will sing "Caro Nome," from Verdi's "Rigoletto," and there will be an organ solo by Arthur Depux.

At the Strand Theatre the programme will be headed by "Other Men's Wives," a Thomas H. Ince picture, with Dorothy Dalton in the leading rôle. She will portray a rich American girl suddenly obliged to earn her living. In the supporting cast are Forest Stanley, H. E. Herbert, Dal Boone, Elsie Larimer and Hal Clements. C. Gardner Sullivan is the author of the play which was produced under the direction of Victor L. Schertzinger, personally supervised by Mr. Ince.

"Hearts and Flowers," a new Mack Sennett comedy, also will be shown. The cast includes Ford Sterling, Louise Fazenda, Jack Ackroyd, Phyllis Haver and Billy Armstrong. Edward Cline was the director. Other pictures will be a new Outing-Chester travel scenic "Biking After Pizarro"; an "Analysis of Motion," showing athletes in action; the Strand Topical Review, edited by Manager Plunkitt, and "Topics of the Day."

The Symphony Orchestra will play "The Dance of the Hours" from "La Gioconda." Because of his success last week, Walter Pontius, the Philadelphia tenor, has been retained and will sing "Macushla." Anne Rutledge, soprano, will sing "Mighty Lak a Rose" and "Who Knows."

Charlie Chaplin in his third \$1,000,000 comedy, "Sunnyside," will be an added attraction to the programme at Loew's New York Theatre and Roof Monday and Tuesday of this week. Hall Caine's "The Woman Thou Gavest Me" will be shown on Monday, and Peggy Hyland in "Covardice Court" Tuesday.

The features for the balance of the week will include Taylor Holmes in "Up-side Down," on Wednesday; Mary MacLaren in "The Weaker Vessel," on Thursday; Bryant Washburn in "Putting It Over" and Harry Morcy in "The Beauty Proof," on Friday, and Madge Evans in "Home Wanted," on Saturday.

Alice Joyce in "The Spark Divine" will open to-day at Inness's Broadway Theatre.

AMUSEMENTS

Jesse L. Lasky Presents

Robert WARWICK

in
"Secret Service"

A Paramount-Arctcraft Special

By William Gillette Directed by Hugh Ford Scenario by Beulah Marie Dix

The Most Successful Play of the American Stage

A thrilling story of love and daring deeds in the days of the Civil War. With a great supporting cast, including Wanda Hawley, Theodore Roberts, Irving Cummings, "Kid" McCoy, Robert Caine, Casson Ferguson, Raymond Hatton, Edythe Chapman and other famous players.

PARAMOUNT MACK SENNETT COMEDY "HEARTS AND FLOWERS" "THE WHITE PEACOCK"—BOLM BALLET

GEO. COHAN
THEATRE BROADWAY
SEVENTH BIG WEEK
DW. GRIFFITH
PRESENTS
"BROKEN BLOSSOMS"
Matinee Today and Every Day, 2:40.
Evening Program Promptly at 8:40.
Theatre Cooled by Iced Air.
Four Special Orchestras.
Production Preceded by Gorgeous Prologue.

STEEPLECHASE
CONVEY ISLAND
OPEN FOR THE SEASON

BROOKLYN AMUSEMENTS

NEW BRIGHTON
Brighton Beach, N.Y. Daily, 2:30, 8:30.
Week Beginning To-morrow, June 23.

ALAN BROOKS
HENRY LEWIS
ODONNELL & BLAIR

KISS ME
Musical Extravaganza
Diana Bonner, Felix & Fisher
U. S. S. CAROLA TRIO

MCKAY & ARDINE
HERBERT CLIFTON